

SUMMARY TABLE OF STATE VEHICLE OCCUPANT PROTECTION LAWS

S T A T E	SAFETY BELT USE LAWS ¹				CHILD RESTRAINT USE LAWS ²				MOTORCYCLE HELMET USE LAWS ³		
	Enforcement	Passengers	Maximum Fine (\$)	Points	Age	Weight (lbs)	Maximum Fine (\$)	Points	Age	Maximum Fine (\$)	Points
AL	Primary	Front Seat	25		<4		10		All	100 ⁴	2
AK	Secondary	All	15		<4		50	2	<18	300	2
AZ	Secondary	Front Seat	10		<5		50		<18	250	
AR	Secondary	Front Seat	25	3	<4	<40	100		<21	50	3
CA	Primary	All	20		<4	<40	100 ⁴	– ⁵	All	100 ⁴	
CO ⁶	Secondary	Front Seat	15		<4	<40	50		– ⁷		
CT	Primary	Front Seat	15/37 ⁸		<4	<40	100 ⁴		<18	90	
DE	Secondary	Front Seat	20		<4		28.75		<19	115 ⁴	2
DC	Primary	All	50	2	<3		55	– ⁹	All	25	2
FL	Secondary	Front Seat ¹⁰	30		≤5		60	3	(<21) ¹¹	30	
GA	Primary	Front Seat	15		≤4		50 ⁴	1 ⁴	All	1,000	
HI	Primary	Front Seat ¹²	45		<4		100 ⁴		<18	1,000	
ID	Secondary	Front Seat	5		<4		100		<18	100	
IL	Secondary	Front Seat	25		<4		25 ⁴		– ⁷		
IN	Primary	Front Seat	25		<4		25	4	<18	500	4
IA	Primary	Front Seat	10		<3		10		– ⁷		
KS	Secondary	Front Seat	10		<4		20		<18	10	
KY	Secondary	All	25		– ¹³		50		(<21) ¹⁴	500	
LA	Primary	Front Seat	25 ⁴		<5		50		(<18) ¹⁵	50	
ME	Secondary	All	50		<4		500		– ¹⁶		
MD	Primary	Front	25		<4	≤40	25		All	500	

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MA	Secondary	All	25		<5	≤40	25		All	35 ⁴	
MI	Primary	Front Seat	25		<4		10		All	100	
MN	Secondary	Front Seat	25		<4		50		<18	200	
MS	Secondary	Front Seat	25		<4		25		All	100 ⁴	
MO	Secondary	Front Seat	10		<4		25		All	25	
MT	Secondary	All	20		<2		100		<18	5	
NE	Secondary	Front Seat	25		<4	<40	25 ⁴	– ¹⁷	All	50	
NV	Secondary	All	25		<5	<40	100		All	1,000	2
NH	Primary	<18 Years Old	25 ⁴		<4		25 ⁴		<18	1,000	
NJ	Primary	Front Seat	20		<5		25		All	25	
NM	Primary	Front Seat	25	2	<1		25	2	<18	300	
NY	Primary	Front Seat	50		<4		100	3	All	100	
NC	Primary	Front Seat ¹⁸	25		<5	<40	25		All	25	
ND	Secondary	Front Seat	20		<4		--	1	<18	500	2
OH	Secondary	Front Seat	25		<4	<40	100 ⁴	– ¹⁹	<18	100 ⁴	
OK	Primary	Front Seat	10		<4	<60	10		<18	500	
OR	Primary	All	75		<4	<40	75		All	75	
PA	Secondary	Front Seat	10		<4		25		All	25	
RI	Secondary	All	50 ²⁰		<4		50 ²⁰		<21 ²¹	50 ²⁰	
SC	Secondary	All	10		≤3		25		<21	100	
SD	Secondary	Front Seat	20		<5		20		<18	200	
TN	Secondary	Front Seat	50 ²²		<4		50		All	50	
TX	Primary	Front Seat ²³	50		<2		50		(<21) ²⁴	50	

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UT	Secondary	Front Seat	45		<2		45		<18	750	
VT	Secondary	All	10		<5		25		All	175	2
VA	Secondary	Front Seat	25		<4		50	3	All	200	
WA	Secondary	All	35		<6 ²⁵	<60 ²⁵	35		All	35	
WV	Secondary	Front Seat	25		<3		20		All	100	
WI	Secondary	Front Seat	10		<4		75		<18	200	
WY	Secondary	Front Seat	25 ²⁶		≤4	≤40	50 ⁴		<18	200 ⁴	
UVC*	Primary	All	200 ⁴		<4		200 ⁴		All	200 ⁴	

*Uniform Vehicle Code

1. These columns report information about mandatory safety belt usage for motor vehicle operators and passengers who are ≥16 years old.
2. These columns report information only about the required use of child passenger protection devices. Some States provide for a weight criteria for child restraint device use as an alternative to age.
3. The information in these columns applies only to motorcycle operators.
4. This is the maximum fine or point assessment for a first offense.
5. For a 2nd or subsequent offense within 37 months, 1 point is assessed.
6. The sanction given applies only to vehicles that are driven by persons <17 years old.
7. This State does not require motorcycle operators to wear a head protection device.
8. Statutory law provides for a maximum fine of \$15 for this offense. However, the infraction fine schedule established by the superior court has set a maximum fine of \$37 for the same offense.
9. It may be possible to assess two points against a person's driving record.
10. However, all passengers, who are <18 years old, must wear a safety belt.
11. A person, who is over 21 years old, may operate or ride on a motorcycle without protective headgear provided they have at least \$10,000 in medical benefits for any injuries they may sustain as a result of a crash while riding on such motor vehicle.
12. Back seat passengers, who are ≥4 but ≤ years old, must be restrained in a safety belt.
13. The requirement to use a child safety device applies if the child is ≤40 inches tall.
14. The following persons are required to wear State approved headgear when operating or riding on a motorcycle: (1) An operator or passenger who is <21 years old (including a passenger <21 years old who is riding in a sidecar attachment); (2) any operator who possess a motorcycle instruction permit; and, (3) any operator who has possesses a motorcycle permit for <1 year.

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(continued)

15. A person ≥ 18 years old, who chooses not to wear a safety helmet, must be covered by a health insurance policy which has at least \$10,000 in benefits for bodily injuries.
16. The requirement to wear protective headgear applies only to operators either who are driving a motorcycle on a learner's permit or who have within one year successfully completed a motorcycle driving test.
17. It may be possible to assess one point against a person's driving record.
18. Front seat passengers ≥ 16 years old and all passengers < 16 years old must be secured in a safety belt.
19. It may be possible to assess two points against a person's driving record.
20. This fine is per the statutory fine schedule. However, the statutory provision establishing this offense provides for a different fine sanction.
21. This age limit applies only to motorcycle operators. Motorcycle passengers must wear protective headgear regardless of their age.
22. If the defendant chooses not to make a court appearance, the maximum fine is either \$10 for a first offense or \$20 for a second or subsequent one.
23. However, all passengers ≥ 4 but < 15 years old, who are occupying a seating position with a safety belt, must be secured in such belt.
24. A person, who is ≥ 21 years old, may apply for an exemption from wearing a safety helmet provided they either (1) have successfully completed a motorcycle operator training and safety course or (2) are covered by a health insurance plan that provides the person with at least \$10,000 in medical benefits which will cover the costs of any injury sustained while operating or riding on a motorcycle.
25. The State of Washington's law on child passenger protection provides for various types of device use depending upon a child's age and weight.
26. This maximum sanction is for a violation committed by a driver. If the offender is a passenger, the maximum fine is \$10. Note: If a person is cited for a violation of the traffic laws, they may have their fine reduced by \$10 if they were wearing a safety belt.